

Coin Board News

Number 14 — April 2010



MARKET ACTIVITY I've made very few coin board purchases in the past quarter. The offerings have been small and disappointing in quality. Likewise, there have been a limited number of boards offered in internet auctions since the last newsletter. Those that have appeared were either the few common pieces that I posted myself or were boards which still housed coins. When a complete or partial set of coins is included, it becomes very hard to determine what value the bidders placed on the board itself.

There was one notable exception, however, a board holding a set of Mercury Dimes that appeared on eBay not long ago. This was a nearly complete set of dimes 1916-40, lacking only the three keys, which were probably removed by the seller for separate sale. The dimes were fairly decent and may have been a collection assembled from circulation. What caught my eye, however, was the fact that the board securing them was a very clean looking Earl & Koehler, only the second example known! A "buy-it-now" listing, it had been posted just a couple hours earlier. I was clearly the first board collector to spot it, and I spent less than a minute before determining to buy this rarity. Even if the dimes were worth silver value alone, I knew that the purchase would certainly be worthwhile, since I have several customers with standing orders for any E & K title that should surface. The board proved to be essentially equal in grade to the formerly unique example in my own collection, and I quickly sold it to the collector having the oldest E & K want list.

BOOK UPDATES Sharp-eyed reader Jeff Reichenberger spotted an omission I made in the Kent Company catalog. For board K5¢A2 there are three lines of instructional text listed as appearing beneath the lower horizontal line, but he pointed out that a fourth appears, too. This line reads "All other coins shown here were minted at Philadelphia and bear no mint mark." I've added this to the list of errors and additions that I send out the first of each year to all recipients of this newsletter. If you don't already have the current list, drop me an email, and I'll send it out as a pdf file.

PUBLISHING SCHEDULE As I anticipated, this newsletter is now coming out quarterly, which permits me a little more time to work on the coin folder/album book. The cataloging of these pieces is about two-thirds done, but the dreaded Raymond/National albums and their Meghrig brand clones are still pending. It seems that I find additional entries at the rate of two or three pieces per month, so vast was their combined output over forty years.

One by-product of all this cataloging has been the identification of numerous duplicates within my own collection of coin folders and albums. I've been moving some of these through eBay, but without a reference book to guide buyers there has been only modest interest shown in some very rare pieces. I've set aside some duplicates of the first generation Whitman blue folders, those produced from 1940-50. A few of those folder appears in my current Price List #114 alongside the usual coin boards, and they should prove to be quite a bargain in the long run.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN I'll be manning the NGC booth at the Central States show in Milwaukee April 28-May 1, the Whitman Expo in Nashville May 20-22, the Long Beach show June 3-5 and the Whitman Expo in Baltimore June 17-19. If you visit any of these coin shows, please stop by and chat about coin boards. I'm also scheduled to be an instructor at the ANA's Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, July 3-9, and I may see a few of you there.

Dave

MERCURY HEAD DIME

1916 то 1939

BONUS COLLECTION CARD

1916 то 1939

